(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Bridges on NH-52

1666. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the programmes finalised towards construction of by-pass, widening, strengthening and replacement of wooden bridges on NH-52 during the Tenth Plan showing sectorial outlays including double lane conversion of the single lane tracks.

(b) the action plan finalised for similar programmes for improvement of National Highways during the Tenth Plan in Assam with proposed outlays, road-wise, and

(c) the utlisation status of the sanctioned funds during the Ninth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) NH-52 in the State of Assam has been taken over by Border Roads Organization from the State PWD in the mid of 2002. For finalizing the 10th Plan for its development, Border Roads Organization are in the process of conducting details reconnaissance survey and soil investigation.

(b) The improvement works on National Highways are taken up on the basis of yearly annual programme drawn up keeping in view the availability of funds. During the first year of the 10th Five Year Plan, 44 improvement works including widening, strengthen, construction of bridges etc. amounting to Rs. 146 crore have been sanctioned so far on National Highways.

(c) An amount of Rs. 329 crore was utilized for the improvement of National Highways in the State of Assam during 9th Plan.